

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUENOS 03131 281747Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 /011 W
-----281851Z 032235 /50
O 281605Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0249

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 3131

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (TODMAN, TERENCE A.), AR
SUBJECT: TODMAN VISIT

FOR ASST SECRETARY TODMAN

REF: STATE 092289

1. WE WELCOME PROSPECT OF YOUR VISIT AND ARE CONFIDENT THAT GOA
WILL ALSO.

2. SCHEDULE:

THOUGH WE ORIGNIALLY THOUGHT TOP GOA OFFICIALS WOULD BE
AVAILABLE, VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO ARGENTINA ANNOUNCED LAST
EVENING THAT PRESIDENT VIDELA ACCOMPANIED BY FONMIN GUZZETTI
WILL MAKE A FOUR-DAY STATE VISIT TO VENEZUELA BEGINNING MAY 11.
DESPITE ABSENCE OF THESE OFFICIALS, WE STILL BELIEVE YOUR VISIT
COULD BE AN EXTREMELY CONSTRUCTIVE FACTOR IN OUR BILATERAL
RELATIONS. AMB HILL WILL HAVE DEPARTED MAY 10, AND WHILE HE WOULD
LIKE TO BE PRESENT FOR YOUR VISIT, IT WOULD BE MOST DIFFICULT
TO EXTEND BECAUSE OF COMMITMENTS ALREADY MADE.

3. SCHEDULE:

MAY 11 (WED):

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1625 ARRIVAL - NO SUBSTANTIVE STATEMENT

1900 MEETING WITH ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER

2000 INFORMAL SUPPER

MAY 12 (THURS):

0730 BREAKFAST - BRIEFING

0930 PRESENTATION TO EMBASSY STAFF

1030 APPOINTMENT WITH JUNTA MEMBER

1200 APPOINTMENT WITH MINECON

1330 LUNCHEON WITH US BUSINESSMEN

1530 PRESS CONFERENCE - CHANCERY

1630 LEAVE FOR EZEIZA AIRPORT

4A. POINTS TO RAISE:

A) US DESIRE THAT VIDELA AND HIS GOVERNMENT WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN ACHIEVING ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND POLITICO/SOCIAL STABILITY AND, BY STEERING THE MODERATE COURSE SET BY THE PRESIDENT, CREATE THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR EVENTUAL RETURN TO STABLE, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT.

B) US DESIRE FOR ARGENTINA TO RECOVER HER CUSTOMARY ROLE IN HEMISPHERE AND WORLD; COMMON US AND ARGENTINE INTERESTS.

C) US HOPE THAT, HAVING SUBSTANTIALLY REGAINED INTERNAL SECURITY AGAINST THE LEFTIST TERRORIST THREAT, THE GOA WILL NOW BE ABLE TO CONCERN ITSELF WITH THE INSECURITY AMONG THE ARGENTINE PEOPLE
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CAUSED BY THE TERRORIST TACTICS DEEMED NECESSARY TO DEFEAT SUBVERSION. (THIS SHOULD BE PREFACED WITH RECOGNITION OF ARGENTINE'S NEED TO COPE WITH ACTIVE TERRORISM -- SEE PAGE 1 OF ARA/ECA TALKING PAPER OF 4-19-77).

D) US COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS. LIKELY CONSEQUENCES FOR US/ ARGENTINE RELATIONS UNDER EXISTING AND PROJECTED US LEGISLATION (INCLUDING HARKIN AMENDMENT, ETC.) FY 1976 FMS CREDITS).

4B. BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS:

A) IMPACT OF REDUCTION OF FY-78 FMS CREDITS AND FACT NO FY-77 CREDIT AGREEMENT SIGNED YET.

B) RESTRICTIONS ON ACCESS TO US MARKET FOR ARGENTINE EXPORTS; COUNTERVAILING DUTY INVESTIGATION ON LEATHER WEARING APPAREL AND NON-RUBBER FOOTWEAR; SANITARY RESTRICTIONS ON MEAT EXPORTS TO US.

C) POSSIBLE AGRICULTURAL CONSULTATIONS ON WHEAT.

D) US POLICY ON NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE TECHNOLOGY EXPORTS.

E) US POLICY TOWARD A POSSIBLE SOUTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION OR SOME OTHER ALLIANCE OF SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES.

5. POLITICAL GROUPS AND HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES. WE WOULD RECOMMEND AGAINST YOUR MAKING AN ATTEMPT TO WIDEN YOUR EXPOSURE BY MEETING WITH POLITICIANS OR HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES DUE TO: THE BREVITY OF YOUR VISIT; THE POSSIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL DEMANDS ON YOUR TIME BY GOA OFFICIALS BEYOND THAT SKETCHED IN THE PROPOSED AGENDA ABOVE; THE DIFFICULTIES IN GETTING AND MIXING A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE AT ONE GATHERING; THE FACT THAT AMPLE CONTACT WITH THESE GROUPS WAS ACHIEVED DURING THE PREVIOUS BRAY AND DERIAN VISITS.

6. PRESS.

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THIS SUBJECT COVERED IN DETAIL BY SEPTTEL. WE RECOMMEND NO FORMAL ARRIVAL STATEMENTS, BUT RECOMMEND CONSIDERATION OF A PRESS CONFERENCE IN CHANCERY BEFORE DEPARTURE FOR AIRPORT. DO YOU DESIRE SEPARATE BACKGROUND BRIEFING OF US CORRESPONDENTS (THERE ARE USUALLY FOUR OR FIVE HERE)? IF SO, WE WILL REWORK SCHEDULE TO FIT IT IN.

7. SECURITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS.

DCM HOPES YOU WILL ACCEPT HIS INVITATION TO STAY AT HIS RESIDENCE. THIS WOULD BE FEASIBLE IF YOU ARE TRAVELLING WITH NO MORE THAN TWO AIDES. ALTERNATIVELY, WE CAN PUT YOU AND YOUR STAFF IN THE RESIDENCE, ALTHOUGH ACCOMMODATIONS WILL NOT BE UP TO THEIR USUAL STANDARD SINCE IT WILL HAVE BEEN VACATED THE DAY BEFORE. FOR SECURITY REASONS THE RSO WOULD PREFER EITHER OF THESE ARRANGMENTS TO LODGING YOU IN THE SHERATON HOTEL.
HILL

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